

REMARKS

Claims 11-19, 44-49, 51-61, 63-74, 83-94, 97-109, 111-116, 118-120 and 122-128 are pending in this application. Claims 11, 63, 84-87, 92, 94, 97-98, 100, 104, 107, 122 and 126-127 are amended and claims 20, 95-96, 110, 117, 121 and 129 have been canceled herein.

Applicant notes the error in the numbering of the claims within the previous amendment and apologizes for any inconvenience caused to the Examiner. The claims have been renumbered herein as suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner has indicated that one of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement of December 2000 was not completely legible. Applicant has provided a legible copy herewith.

The drawings of October 2003 were objected to because of a number of informalities. In particular, Figures 41c and 42b were different than the original. Replacement sheets for Figures 41c and 42b have been provided herewith and are consistent with the drawings that were originally filed. In addition, the reference numeral 610 in the last paragraph on page 84 has been corrected to read 910. This is consistent with the drawings.

The specification has been objected to because of a number of informalities. The paragraph on page 55 have been corrected as suggested by the Examiner.

A number of the claims have been objected to because of informalities. Each of these claims has been amended as suggested by the Examiner.

Claims 96, 110, 117, 121 and 129 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 first paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirement. These rejections are now moot in view of the fact that these claims have been canceled herein.



Claims 63, 95, 97, 110, 122 and 126 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention the subject matter, which Applicant regards is the invention. Each of these claims has either been amended to resolve the issue raised by the Examiner or been canceled. In view of this amendment, Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are now allowable.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests that the present patent application be passed to issuance. No fee is believed due in connection with this filing. However, should one be deemed due, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-1065.

Respectfully submitted,

Ira S. Matsil
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 35,272

3/22/04

Date

Slater & Matsil, L.L.P.
17950 Preston Rd., Suite 1000
Dallas, TX 75252-5793
Tel.: 972-732-1001
Fax: 972-732-9218